21st October 1927]

A.—A copy [a] of the letter from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, No. 1924/27-C.E.P., dated 30th September 1927, with its enclosures is placed on the table.

Variations in the several estimates of the Gundlakamma project.

*785 *Q.*—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Major Hasted has originally worked out the Gundlakamma project and his scheme was for a reservoir of an area of 90 to 100 square miles and to irrigate 150,000 acres;

(*b*) whether a later estimate in 1901 reduced the scope of the project to 35,000 acres and a net return of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the capital outlay;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that latterly Mr. J. P. Davidson was of opinion that 45,000 acres would be irrigated under the project by the stored water being credited with its full duty and ultimately in 1916 the estimate was reduced to 20,000 acres irrigation only and a return of only 1·35 per cent on the capital outlay;

(*d*) what is the cause for all these vast variations; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to cause the matter to be thoroughly examined?

A.—(*a*) Major Hasted did not work out a detailed scheme—he merely proposed the construction of a reservoir with a spread of 90 to 100 square miles to irrigate about 150,000 acres.

(*b*) Yes—but the net return anticipated was 4·9 per cent, not 6·5.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The yield from the catchment area anticipated in the earlier stages of the project was subsequently found to be too sanguine, and the gaugings from 1912 to 1914 went to show that it would be unsafe to depend on getting more than 5,000 m.c.ft. in the reservoir.

(*e*) The Government have called for some further information from the Chief Engineer, and when it comes, will again consider whether it is desirable to make any further examination of the project.

Exclusion of the Gundlakamma Project scheme from the modified Kistna Reservoir project.

*786 *Q.*—Mr SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to paragraph 2 of the Government Order abandoning the Gundlakamma project—

(*a*) the reasons for not including this scheme in the modified Kistna Reservoir project in the year 1908; and

(*b*) whether since Government have decided in 1916 to abandon this project, the Government will consider the feasibility of including the Gundlakamma wet scheme in the Kistna Reservoir project now?

A.—(*a*) The modified project was designed expressly to confine the irrigable area to the country north of the Gundlakamma and

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 398–399 infra.